

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF DR. PATRICIA L.  
MCGEEHAN

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan for her exceptional contributions to the education of New Jersey's children. For 30 years, she has provided for their educational needs as a teacher, principal, and superintendent.

Dr. McGeehan received her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the College of Saint Elizabeth, and her Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University, where, in 1997, she went on to complete her Doctorate in Education/Administration.

As Principal of the Midtown Community School from 1992 to 2000, Dr. McGeehan helped develop the school's curriculum, and provided meaningful guidance and support to enhance every student's educational experience. In 1995, she developed the Stevens Institute Partnership to provide students with the technological skills required to succeed in the new economy.

For her dedication, vision, and hard work, Dr. McGeehan has received numerous awards, including the New Jersey Star School Award, the National Blue Ribbon Award, the National Elementary School Principals Honor Council Excellence Award, and the New Jersey Principals' Harvard Project Case Writing Award.

Dr. McGeehan's commitment to community does not stop at the end of the school day. She generously serves on the Board of Trustees for the Bayonne Hospital, the St. Barnabas Burn Center, and the Simpson-Baber Foundation for the Autistic. In her spare time, she participates in Ireland 32's, the Friends of the Bayonne Community Orchestra, and the activities of the Holy Family Academy.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan for her hard work and dedication on behalf of our community, and for her extraordinary contributions in the field of education.

A TRIBUTE TO LEEROY CLARK

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2000*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in praising the work and life of Tuscola County Human Development Commission Chairman LeeRoy Clark upon the occasion of the dedication of the LeeRoy Clark Center to serve the everyday needs of senior citizens.

For more than 35 years, LeeRoy has quietly applied his keen intellect and loving heart to improving the lives of friends, neighbors and strangers, while simultaneously overcoming the intolerance of less-enlightened minds. The breadth of LeeRoy's involvement and influence on his community cannot be underestimated or overvalued. In fact, a simple list of the many civic, educational and labor organizations that have benefitted from his leadership would take up several newspaper columns. No work log or time sheet is large enough to reflect his humanitarian commitment.

His work on the Human Development Commission and the community action movement has spanned four decades, beginning in 1965. LeeRoy has served as Commission Chairman for 31 of those years. He is also a board member of the Michigan Community Action Agency Association and is in the 40th year as an elected member of his township board.

Those who know LeeRoy have long praised him for his quiet and thoughtful lead-by-example approach. His efforts have immeasurably enhanced many lives by feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, finding work for the jobless at a fair and just wage, easing the burden of the impaired and leveling the playing field for minorities and the disadvantaged.

Although LeeRoy, who resides in Millington, Michigan, has received many accolades for his volunteer work, he has never sought such recognition. His wife, Billie, says he prefers "the appreciation that someone shows him by a handshake, a smile, sending a note or taking the time to say thank-you."

I hope my colleagues will join me today in publicly honoring LeeRoy Clark with the official gratitude of the United States House of Representatives for a lifetime of compassionate endeavors that have earned the handshakes and appreciative smiles of an entire community.

IN HONOR OF JEFF HORTON

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 5, 2000*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeff Horton, a leader in educational reform and an outstanding educator from Los Angeles, California. His efforts on behalf of the children of Los Angeles and the State of California will be remembered and appreciated for generations to come.

A native of California and graduate of La Habra High School, Mr. Horton's commitment to education began over 30 years ago. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1970, Mr. Horton embarked on his journey as an educator by teaching English in

Florence, Italy. He went on to teach English, Speech, and Reading at Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles from 1975 to 1989. Mr. Horton's dedication to the Los Angeles community has not been limited to the classroom; he has championed efforts to desegregate our schools, establish an independent civilian police review board, and expand adult literacy programs. Eventually, Mr. Horton's drive to improve the quality of education for all children inspired him to run for elected office.

Jeff Horton was first elected to the Los Angeles Unified School District's Board of Education in 1991 and was reelected in 1995. Students in his district hailed from some of the most diverse urban areas of Los Angeles—from Hollywood, Koreatown, Silver Lake and Echo Park to West Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley.

As a board member of the largest school district in California, Mr. Horton served as Chairman of the Board's curriculum standards for six years. He initiated the practice of publicly recognizing schools for academic achievement and attendance. In addition, Mr. Horton was intimately involved in the development of district-wide learning standards for all academic subjects. These learning standards were adopted by the school district in June of 1996 and are currently under consideration by the State of California.

As a passionate advocate for disenfranchised children, Mr. Horton actively fought to protect the special needs of child abuse victims. During his tenure as a board member, he was instrumental in securing funds for the school district's child abuse office. In doing so, Mr. Horton made it possible for children with special needs to always have a place to turn for safe and confidential assistance.

In 1999, Mr. Horton was appointed to the Los Angeles County Board of Education and currently serves as the President of the California School Board's Association. As a board member he has brought with him 30 years of outstanding experience, educational commitment and compassion. Jeff Horton's legacy is one that we should all praise and celebrate. He is a living reminder to us of the powerful changes one person can make in society.

Mr. Speaker, along with family and friends of Jeff Horton who gathered at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach, California on Wednesday, November 29, 2000 to celebrate 30 years of educational commitment and professionalism, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional man and good friend.

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